



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VIII

999 18th STREET - SUITE 300  
DENVER, COLORADO 80202-2466

JUN 23 2005

VIA E-MAIL [bfox@wyoming.com](mailto:bfox@wyoming.com) 06/22/2005

Ref: 8ENF-W

CERTIFIED MAIL 7004 2510 0004 8289 5591  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ms. Mel Fox and Mr. Bayard Fox, Operators  
1430 East Fork Road  
Dubois, WY 82513

Bitterroot Ranch LLC  
Addison E. Winter, Registered Agent  
205 SO. Broadway  
Riverton, WY 82501

RE: Emergency Administrative  
Order issued under SDWA  
Section 1431 to  
Bitterroot Ranch  
Docket No. **SDWA-08-2005-0030**  
PWS ID #5601511

Dear Messrs. Addison Winter and Bayard Fox, and Ms. Mel Fox:

Enclosed is an Emergency Administrative Order issued under Section 1431 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), 40 U.S.C. §300i to you as owners and/or operators of the Bitterroot Ranch Water System (the "System"). The Order is based on the bacteriological samples analyzed June 13, 2005 as positive for total coliform bacteria and samples analyzed June 20, 2005 as positive for E. coli bacteria, which may pose an imminent and substantial endangerment to the health of persons served by this water system.

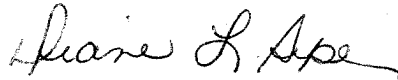
The enclosed Order sets forth the actions you must immediately take. Penalties for failing to comply are set forth in the Order. Among other things, the Order requires the immediate issuance of a boil water notice and temporary increased bacteriological monitoring. A public notice template and funding pamphlet are also enclosed.

EPA is committed to working with you to ensure the safety of the System's water supply and appreciates your cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions regarding this Order, the most knowledgeable individual on my staff regarding these requirements is Gina Andrews who can be reached at (303) 312-6688. If you are

represented by an attorney feel free to ask your attorney to call  
Peggy Livingston, Enforcement Attorney, at (303) 312-6858.

We urge your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Diane Sipe, Director  
Technical Enforcement Program  
Office of Enforcement, Compliance  
and Environmental Justice

Enclosures:

Emergency Administrative Order  
Sample Public Notice Template  
Small Business Information Sheet

cc: WY DEQ (via email)  
WY DOH (via email)



Printed on Recycled Paper



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VIII

999 18th STREET - SUITE 300  
DENVER, COLORADO 80202-2466

JUN 23 2005

VIA E-MAIL [bfox@wyoming.com](mailto:bfox@wyoming.com) 06/22/2005

Ref: 8ENF-W

CERTIFIED MAIL 7004 2510 0004 8289 5607  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ms. Mel Fox and Mr. Bayard Fox, Operators  
1430 East Fork Road  
Dubois, WY 82513

Bitterroot Ranch LLC  
Addison E. Winter, Registered Agent  
205 SO. Broadway  
Riverton, WY 82501

RE: Emergency Administrative  
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Docket No. **SDWA-08-2005-0030**  
PWS ID #5601511

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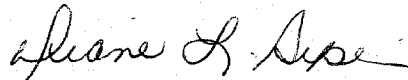
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Diane Sipe, Director  
Technical Enforcement Program  
Office of Enforcement, Compliance  
and Environmental Justice

Enclosures:

Emergency Administrative Order  
Sample Public Notice Template  
Small Business Information Sheet

cc: WY DEQ (via email)  
WY DOH (via email)



Printed on Recycled Paper

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 8

2005 JUN 23 AM 11:28

IN THE MATTER OF )

Ms. Mel Fox & )  
Mr. Bayard Fox, Operators )  
Bitterroot Ranch LLC, Owner )  
Dubois, WY )

PWS ID # 5601511 )

Respondents )

Proceedings under section 1431 )  
of the Safe Drinking Water Act, )  
42 U.S.C. § 300i )

FILED  
EPA REGION VIII  
HEARING CLERK

EMERGENCY  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Docket No. SDWA-08-2005-0030

**I. STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

The following Findings are made and Order issued under the authority vested in the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by section 1431 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (the Act), 42 U.S.C. § 300i, as properly delegated to the Supervisors of the Technical and Legal Enforcement Programs of the Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice, EPA Region 8.

**II. JURISDICTION**

- A. EPA has jurisdiction to issue emergency orders pursuant to section 1431 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300i.
- B. EPA has primary enforcement responsibility for the Act in Wyoming because the State of Wyoming does not have primary enforcement authority for public water systems.

### III. FINDINGS

- A. Respondent Bitterroot Ranch LLC is a limited liability company under the laws of the state of Wyoming as of December 1995 and therefore a "person" within the meaning of 40 C.F.R. § 141.2. Respondents Ms. Mel Fox and Mr. Bayard Fox are individuals and therefore "persons" within the meaning of section 1401(12) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300f(12) and 40 C.F.R. § 141.2.
- B. Respondents own and/or operate the Bitterroot Ranch Water System (the "System") located in Fremont County, Wyoming for the provision to the public of piped water for human consumption.
- C. The System has at least 15 service connections or regularly serves an average of at least 25 individuals daily at least 60 days out of the year and is therefore a "public water system" within the meaning of section 1401(4) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300f(4), and a "non-community water system" within the meaning of 40 C.F.R. § 141.2.
- D. Respondents own and/or operate a public water system and are therefore "suppliers of water" within the meaning of section 1401(5) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300f(5) and 40 C.F.R. § 141.2. Respondents are

therefore subject to the requirements of Part B of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g et seq., and its implementing regulations, 40 C.F.R. part 141, sometimes known as the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations or NPDWRs.

- E. According to an August 1, 2002 sanitary survey by an agent for EPA, five wells supply water to the System. Four of these wells are still operational. All of these wells are dug wells that are less than 15 feet in depth. The System serves approximately 20 transient persons and 20 staff per day from early May through late September, and 2 year-round residents, through 16 service connections.
- F. EPA notified Respondents in an August 3, 2004 letter (enclosed) that Microscopic Particulate Analysis (MPA) sample results showed a high risk of direct surface water influence at the Homestead Well #4, which is one of the wells supplying water to the System. The EPA's letter stated that the Homestead Well #4 was at high risk for transfer of pathogenic organisms from surface water and outlined options by which the Respondents could comply with the Surface Water Treatment Rule (SWTR) by a final compliance date of February 28, 2006. To date, EPA has no knowledge that Respondents have begun working toward compliance with the SWTR.

- G. EPA has determined, based on (1) samples collected from the Homestead Well #4 distribution system and analyzed June 13, 2005 as positive for total coliform and samples analyzed June 20, 2005 as positive for E-coli bacteria; (2) EPA's prior determination that this water source is under the influence of surface water; and (3) the lack of any indication that interim treatment measures have been instituted, that water from the Homestead Well #4 may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to the health of persons.
- H. The State of Wyoming has not acted to protect public health under the Act because it is not authorized to do so.
- I. Local authorities have not acted to protect public health under the Act because they are not authorized to do so.
- J. On or about June 21, 2005, EPA consulted with State authorities regarding the information upon which this Order is based.
- K. This Order and the requirements set forth herein are necessary to ensure adequate protection of public health.



IV. ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings, and pursuant to section 1431 of the Act, IT IS ORDERED:

A. **INTENT TO COMPLY**

1. Within 24 hours of receipt of this Order, Respondents shall notify EPA in writing of their intention to comply with the terms of this Order.
2. The Respondents' notification shall include a general plan for compliance with each of the elements of this Order.

B. **ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLY**

1. Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondents must provide all the users of water from Homestead Well #4 with either an alternate water supply or with water from the Homestead Well #4 that has been boiled for at least three minutes. Any alternative water supply shall be either from other wells serving the System or from a licensed water distributor, licensed by the State of Wyoming Department of Agriculture, Consumer Health Services Program, and shall be made available at no cost as needed for drinking and food preparation until Respondents receive written

notification from EPA that alternative water is no longer necessary.

2. Respondents shall immediately notify all the users of the Homestead Well #4 water that an alternative water supply and/or boiled water is available. Respondents shall provide a sufficient quantity of water for reasonable domestic uses, at a minimum, two liters daily, for each customer.
3. Within 24 hours of receipt of this Order, Respondents shall submit certification to EPA of compliance with this paragraph IV.B.

**C. DISINFECTION**

1. Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondents shall continuously chlorinate the water from the Homestead Well #4 at a frequency so as to continually maintain a disinfection chlorine residual of a least 0.2 milligrams per liter (mg/l) free chlorine throughout the distribution system. Respondents must immediately notify the EPA officials listed paragraph F.3. below when the chlorine residual is less than 0.2 mg/l.
2. Upon receipt of this Order, Respondents shall monitor for chlorine residual daily at the further tap in the Homestead Well #4 distribution system.

This chlorine residual monitoring must be continued daily. Respondents shall report the results of the chlorine residual monitoring to EPA monthly, within the first ten (10) days of each month.

**D. BACTERIOLOGICAL MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

1. Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondents shall conduct bacteriological monitoring as follows:
  - i. Prior to any occupancy at the Homestead Well #4 area of the System, Respondents shall collect 3 samples to determine compliance with the maximum contaminant level ("MCL") for total coliform bacteria as stated in 40 C.F.R. § 141.63. Respondents shall report analytical results, via phone or fax, to EPA immediately upon receiving the results.
  - ii. Upon receiving written notice from EPA, Respondents shall initiate weekly bacteriological sampling to determine compliance with the MCL for total coliform bacteria as stated in 40 C.F.R. § 141.63.
  - iii. After receiving written notice from EPA that weekly bacteriological sampling is no longer required, Respondents shall conduct monthly

bacteriological monitoring as stated in 40 C.F.R. § 141.21 to determine compliance with the MCLs as stated in 40 C.F.R. § 141.63.

- iv. Respondents shall report all bacteriological analytical results to EPA within 10 days of the end of each monitoring period, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(a), or sooner if specified in this Order.

**E. PUBLIC NOTICE**

Upon receipt of this Order, Respondents shall provide public notice of the E. coli positive samples. This public notice shall be given in one or more of the following forms of delivery: (1) Appropriate broadcast media (such as radio and television); (2) Posting of the notice in conspicuous locations throughout the area served by the System, including, but not limited to, at a minimum, posting in the entry way to each building served by Homestead Well #4, and over every faucet served by that well; (3) Hand delivery of the notice to persons served by the System; or (4) Another delivery method approved in writing by EPA. The notice shall be repeated at least once every 3 months by mail, hand delivery, or posting as long as the violation exists. Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondents

shall comply with the public notification requirements at 40 C.F.R. § 141.201 et seq. following any future NPDWR violation. Respondents shall submit a copy of the public notice to EPA within 10 days of completion of the public notice, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(d). The public notice shall include the following information:

1. All requirements as specified in 40 C.F.R. § 141.205 including:
  - i. A description of the violation or situation, including contaminant of concern, and the contaminant level;
  - ii. When the violation or situation occurred;
  - iii. Any potential adverse health effects from the violation or situation (see section 2. below);
  - iv. The population at risk, including subpopulations particularly vulnerable if exposed to the contaminant in their drinking water;
  - v. Whether alternative water supplies should be used (see section 2. below);

- vi. What actions consumers should take, including when they should seek medical help, if known (see section 2. below);
  - vii. What the System is doing to correct the violation or situation;
  - viii. When the System expects to return to compliance or resolve the situation;
  - ix. The name, business address, and phone number of the owner, operator, or designee of the System as a source of additional information concerning the notice; and
2. Respondents shall include the following mandatory health effects language in the public notice as specified in 40 C.F.R. § 141.205(d)(1), Appendix B to subpart Q of part 141:

E. Coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

UNTIL FURTHER NOTIFIED, ALL WATER USED FOR DRINKING, BRUSHING TEETH, COOKING, MAKING ICE, WASHING DISHES, OR USED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION, ETC., SHALL BE BOILED FOR AT

LEAST ONE (1) MINUTE, AT A ROLLING BOIL,  
BEFORE USE. ALL STORED WATER, DRINK OR ICE  
MADE RECENTLY FROM THIS SUPPLY SHALL BE  
DISCARDED.

**F. CORRECTIVE ACTION MEASURES**

1. Respondents shall correct the structural deficiencies noted as a concern in the August 3, 2004 letter from EPA referenced in III.F. of the Findings section, above. No later than July 1, 2005 Respondents shall submit to EPA certification that they have sealed all cracks and openings in the Homestead Well #4.
2. Within 30 days of the effective date of this Order, Respondents shall submit a plan to EPA and Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ) to ensure that the System will consistently and reliably provide safe drinking water to the public and meet the requirements of the August 3, 2004 letter referenced in III.F. of the Findings section, above. The plan shall include the following information:
  - i. Proposed system modifications to achieve and maintain compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act.
  - ii. Estimated costs of any modifications; and
  - iii. A schedule for construction of the project.The schedule shall include specific milestone dates and a final compliance date. The plans

must be approved by the WDEQ and EPA before construction can commence. The compliance schedule shall have a completion date of no later than 90 days from the date of this Order.

iv. The schedule for construction and completion of modifications will be incorporated into this Order upon written approval by EPA.

3. Respondents shall submit monthly reports to EPA on the status of all corrective measures. Each report shall include a description of any activity conducted on the System including a specific listing and status of each item identified above. Reports shall be postmarked no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

**G. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

1. Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondents shall comply with 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(g)(1) by reporting any total coliform MCL violation under 40 C.F.R. § 141.63 to EPA no later than the end of the next business day after it learns of the violation.
2. Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondents shall comply with 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(e) by



reporting any fecal coliform or E. coli positive sample to EPA by the end of the day when the system is notified of the test result.

3. Unless otherwise specified, all reports and notifications herein required shall be submitted to:

US Environmental Protection Agency (8P-W-MS)  
999 18<sup>th</sup> Street Suite 300  
Denver, Colorado 80202-2466  
Telephone (800)227-8917 X 6481 or (303) 312-6688 Gina Andrews  
OR (800) 227-8918 X6274 or (303) 312-6274 John Gillis

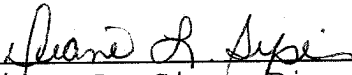
#### V. GENERAL PROVISIONS

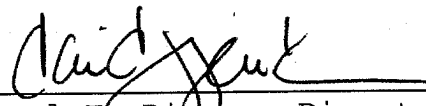
- A. This Order does not constitute a waiver, suspension, or modification of the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 141.1 et seq., or the Safe Drinking Water Act, which remain in full force and effect. Issuance of this Order is not an election by EPA to forgo any civil or criminal action otherwise authorized under the Act.
- B. Violation of any term of this Order may subject the Respondents to a civil penalty not to exceed \$16,500 for each day in which such violation occurs or failure to comply continues, assessed by an appropriate U.S. District Court under section 1431(b) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300i(b).
- C. Violation of any requirement of the Act or its

implementing regulations may subject Respondents to a civil penalty of not more than \$32,500 per day of violation assessed by an appropriate U.S. District Court under section 1414(b) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(b).

- D. The effective date of this Order shall be the date of issuance.

Issued this 22nd day of June, 2005.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Diane L. Sipe, Director  
Technical Enforcement Program  
Office of Enforcement, Compliance  
and Environmental Justice

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael T. Risner, Director  
David J. Janik, Supervisory Attorney  
Legal Enforcement Program  
Office of Enforcement, Compliance  
and Environmental Justice



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 8

999 18<sup>TH</sup> STREET- SUITE 300

DENVER, CO 80202-2466

Phone 800-227-8917

<http://www.epa.gov/region08>

AUG 3 2004

Ref: 8P-W-MS

CONCURRENCE/READING FILE

**CERTIFIED MAIL**

**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Mel Fox  
Bitterroot Ranch  
1480 East Fork Road  
Dubois, WY 82513

Re: Determination of Ground Water Under the  
Direct Influence of Surface Water for  
Homestead Well #4  
PWS ID #WY5601511NC

Dear Ms. Fox:

The purpose of this letter is to follow up on the concerns we have with the four wells used as the drinking water supply for the Bitterroot Ranch. Our concern that the wells are groundwater under the direct influence of surface water (GWUDISW) was discussed in our letters to you dated September 25, 2002, and March 13, 2003. In those letters we discussed the structural concerns with the wells, including outer casings that were not properly sealed with grout or surface well caps. We also requested that the Bitterroot Ranch conduct Microscopic Particulate Analysis (MPA) on samples of the well water. We appreciate your cooperation in the MPA testing, which was conducted in June of 2003 and June of 2004.

Based upon the results of the MPA testing of water from the Homestead Well #4 conducted on June 25, 2004, that well is at high risk for direct surface water influence (risk factor = 24). Direct surface water influence may cause transfer of pathogenic organisms (*Cryptosporidium*, *Giardia lamblia*, viruses) to the well water. Therefore, the Bitterroot Ranch must choose one of the following options to comply with the Surface Water Treatment Rule (SWTR), at 40 C.F.R. part 141 Subpart H, and the Long Term 1 Enhanced SWTR at 40 C.F.R. part 141 Subpart T:

1. As a public water supply system using a surface water source, or a GWUDISW source, the Bitterroot Ranch must provide treatment to Well #4 to achieve a minimum of 2-log (99%) *Cryptosporidium* removal, 3-log (99.9%) *Giardia* cyst removal and/or inactivation,

7/29/04  
SPWMS  
Meh  
8/2/04  
Prychub  
SPWMS

and 4-log (99.99%) virus removal and/or inactivation. These treatment objectives can be achieved by providing combined filtration with disinfection treatments. Within 18 months of this notification (by February 28, 2006) the Bitterroot Ranch must install filtration and disinfection that meet the criteria for filtered systems specified in 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.72(b), 141.73, and 141.550 through 141.564; or

2. If you wish the Well #4 water system to be considered unfiltered, in order to comply with the SWTR by February 28, 2006, you must meet the filtration avoidance criteria (including watershed protection and source water quality monitoring) specified in 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.71 and 141.520 through 141.522; and the disinfection requirements specified in 40 C.F.R. § 141.72(a); or
3. The Bitterroot Ranch may permanently disconnect from Homestead Well #4 and find an alternative source of safe drinking water for that cabin, either by drilling a new well or by connecting to an existing public water system; or
4. The Bitterroot Ranch may cease to operate the facility as a system for the provision to the public of water for human consumption through pipes or other constructed conveyances.

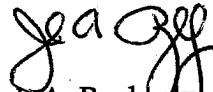
As Mike Sposit, a contractor with Midwest Assistance Program hired by EPA, discussed with you on July 20, 2004, it appears that the structural deficiencies with the four wells have not been corrected since they were identified in 2002. It is very possible that the cracks and openings in the wells, identified in the photos enclosed with this letter, have allowed surface water to enter the wells. Unfortunately, these cracks and openings can allow disease-causing organisms, animals, and insects to get into the well water. The heavy precipitation that occurred during the 2004 MPAs could have resulted in the significant levels of algae and other surface water indicators that were found during the MPA testing of Homestead Well #4. Similarly, the other three wells showed moderate risk of surface water influence during the June 2004 MPA testing; this may also have resulted from the structural problems.

Therefore, we strongly recommend that improvements be made to all wells to remove potential for surface water influence from above ground. If these improvements are made, the drinking water system can be re-evaluated; this would require retesting through MPAs to demonstrate that the renovated wells are not GWUDISW prior to the 18-month deadline for installing filtration (by February 28, 2006). The demonstration would require taking one more MPA sample from each well at a high risk time (possibly fall/winter of 2004 or spring/fall of 2005 when the ground is saturated and preferably during a precipitation event). If the MPA samples of the wells, taken after the wells are improved, come back very low risk, this GWUDISW determination can be reversed and a negative GWUDISW determination may be made for the wells.

In order to ensure that the public is notified of this EPA decision on your well water, you are entitled to request a public hearing. You may also request an informal conference with EPA concerning this decision.

Enclosed is a fact sheet on the SWTR and LT1ESWTR, as well as a copy of the regulation at 40 C.F.R. part 141 Subpart H. If you wish to request a public hearing, or an informal conference with us, please contact Mindy Mohr, of my staff, in writing, within the next 14 days at the letterhead address and please include the Mail Code: 8P-W-MS. Please note, a request for a public hearing does not stay the filtration determination or the date by which filtration is required. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact Mindy Mohr at 800-227-8917, ext. 6525.

Sincerely,



Jack A. Rycheky, Chief  
Municipal Systems

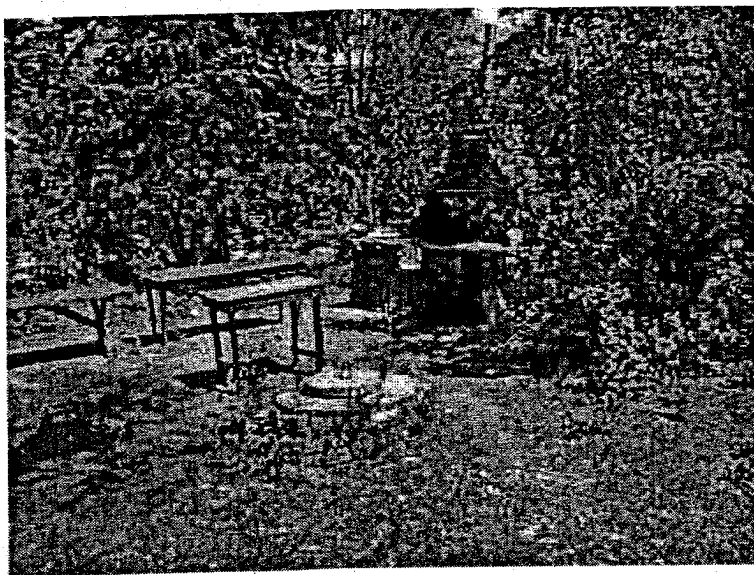
Enclosures

cc: Mike Sposit, MAP  
Larry Robinson, WDEQ

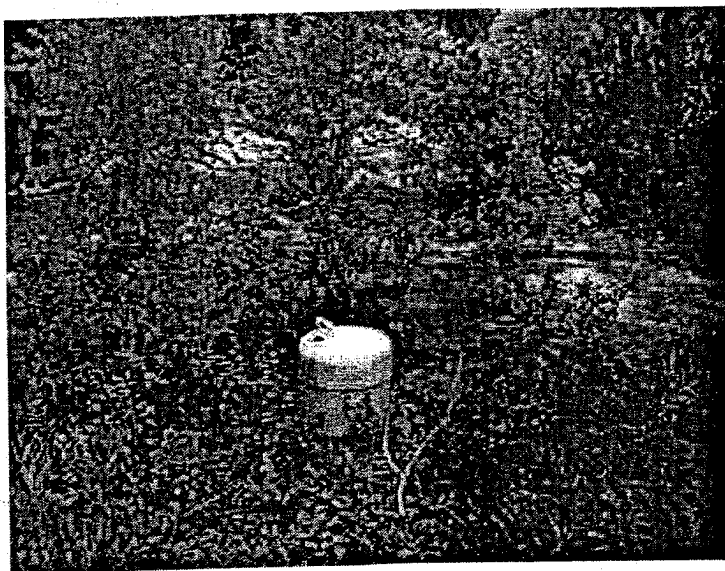


Sanitary Survey  
Date: 07/20/04

PWS Name: Bitterroot Ranch  
PWS ID # 5601511



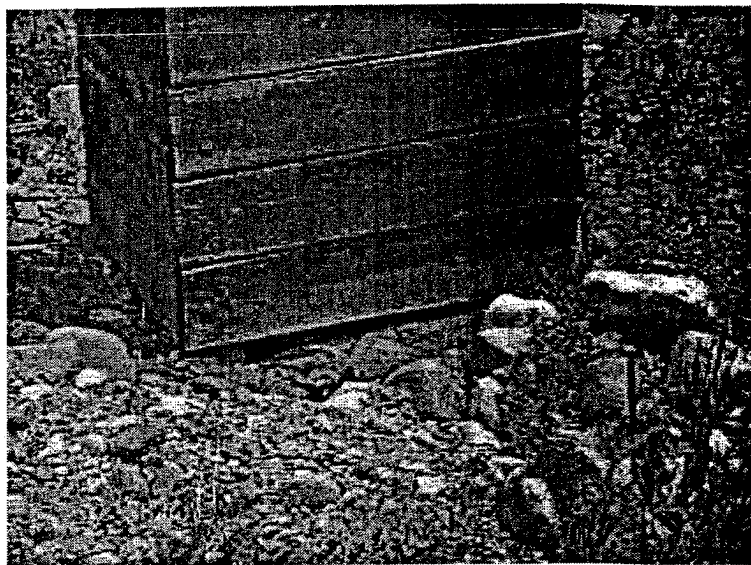
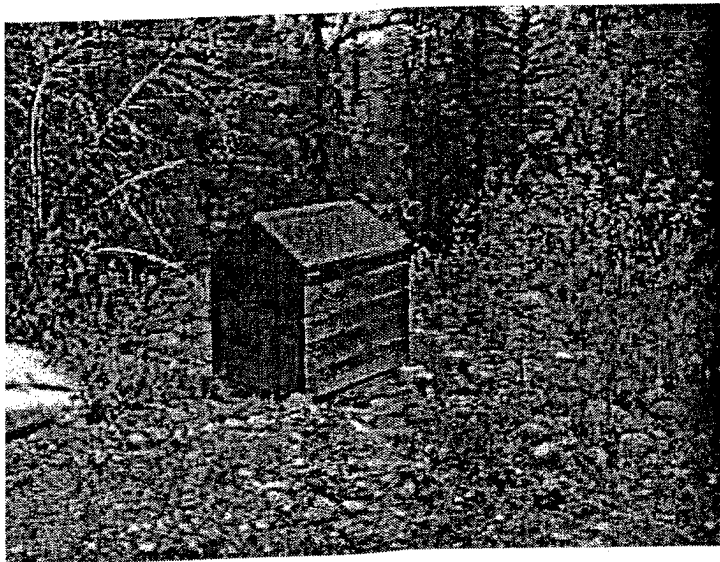
Area view of well#1: Lodge well, right note rope is holding up the cement well cover. Surface water has easy access



Well #3 view of well

Sanitary Survey  
Date: 07/20/04

PWS Name: Bitterroot Ranch  
PWS ID # 5601511

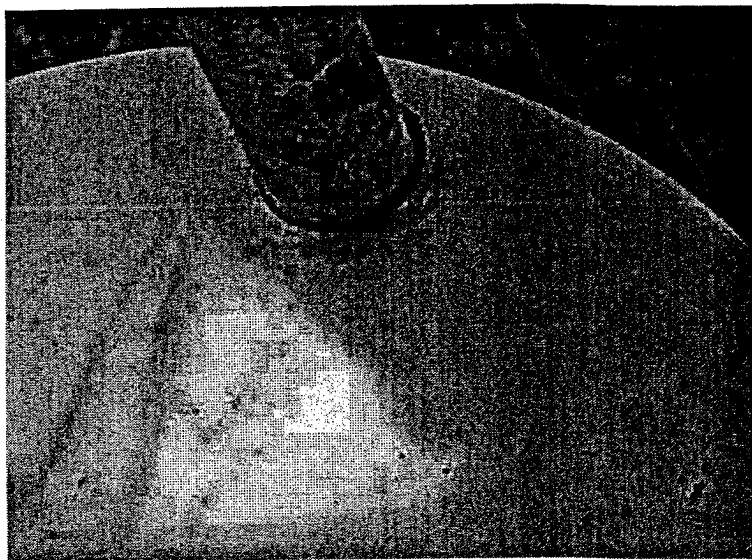
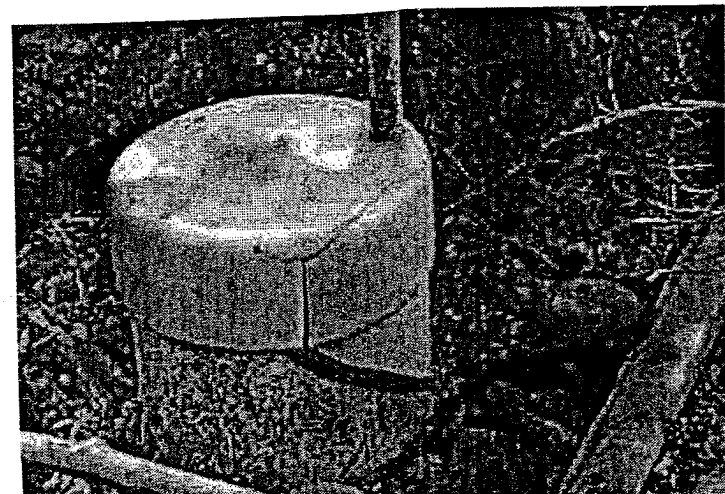


Well #2, area view. This well has a wellhouse, but right shows entrance point for animals



View Well #4:

Area view, location of well#4; right is hydrant through the top of well cap, 1/4" gap. Left, note crack and electrical wire allowing entrance of contamination



## Instructions for Fecal Coliform or *E. Coli* Notice—Template 1-2

### Template on Reverse

Since exceeding the fecal coliform or *E. coli* maximum contaminant level is a Tier 1 violation, you must provide public notice to persons served as soon as practical but within 24 hours after you learn of the violation (141.202(b)). During this time, you must also contact your primacy agency. You should also coordinate with your local health department. You may also have to modify the template if you also have high nitrate levels or other coliform MCL violations. You must use one or more of the following methods to deliver the notice to consumers (141.202(c)):

- Radio
- Television
- Hand or direct delivery
- Posting in conspicuous locations

You may need to use additional methods (e.g., newspaper, delivery of multiple copies to hospitals, clinics, or apartment buildings), since notice must be provided in a manner reasonably calculated to reach all persons served.

The notice on the reverse is appropriate for hand delivery or a newspaper notice. However, you may wish to modify it before using it for a radio or TV notice. If you do, you must still include all required elements and leave the health effects language in italics unchanged. This language is mandatory (141.205(d)). See Chapter 8 for a notice designed for posting. If you post or hand deliver, print your notice on letterhead, if you have it.

### Population Served

Make sure it is clear who is served by your water system—you may need to list the areas you serve.

### Corrective Action

In your notice, describe corrective actions you are taking. Listed below are some steps commonly taken by water systems with fecal coliform or *E. coli* violations. Use one or more of the following actions, if appropriate, or develop your own:

- We are chlorinating and flushing the water system.
- We are switching to an alternate drinking water source.
- We are increasing sampling for coliform bacteria to determine the source of the contamination.
- We are repairing the wellhead seal.
- We are repairing the storage tank.
- We are restricting water intake from the river/lake/reservoir to prevent additional bacteria from entering the water system and restricting water use to emergencies.

### After Issuing the Notice

Send a copy of each type of notice and a certification that you have met all the public notice requirements to your primacy agency within ten days from the time you issue the notice (141.31(d)).

It is recommended that you notify health professionals in the area of the violation. People may call their doctors with questions about how the violation may affect their health, and the doctors should have the information they need to respond appropriately. In addition, health professionals, including dentists, use tap water during their procedures and need to know of contamination so they can use bottled water.

It is a good idea to issue a "problem corrected" notice when the violation is resolved. See Template 1-6.



## DRINKING WATER WARNING

Bitterroot Ranch water is contaminated with *E. coli*

### BOIL YOUR WATER BEFORE USING

*E. coli* bacteria were found in the water supply on June 20, 2005. These bacteria can make you sick, and are a particular concern for people with weakened immune systems.

#### What should I do?

1. **DO NOT DRINK THE WATER WITHOUT BOILING IT FIRST.** Bring all water to a boil, let it boil for one minute, and let it cool before using, or use bottled water. Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, brushing teeth, washing dishes, and food preparation **until further notice**. Boiling kills bacteria and other organisms in the water.
- *Fecal coliforms and E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.*
2. The symptoms above are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice. People at increased risk should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

#### What happened? What is being done?

Bacterial contamination can occur when increased run-off enters the drinking water source (for example, following heavy rains). It can also happen due to a break in the distribution system (pipes) or a failure in the water treatment process.

We are currently working with EPA to address the problem. In addition we are making repairs to the well and chlorinator system. We will inform you when tests show no bacteria and you no longer need to boil your water. We anticipate resolving the problem soon.

For more information, please contact Mel Fox at 307-455-2778 or 1430 East Fork Rd., Dubois, WY 82513. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1(800) 426-4791.

*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

This notice is being sent to you by Bitterroot Ranch  
State Water System ID#: WY5601511. Date distributed:



## U. S. EPA Small Business Resources

If you own a small business, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) offers a variety of compliance assistance and tools to assist you in complying with federal and state environmental laws. These resources can help you understand your environmental obligations, improve compliance and find cost-effective ways to comply through the use of pollution prevention and other innovative technologies.

### Hotlines, Helplines and Clearinghouses

EPA sponsors approximately 89 free hotlines and clearinghouses that provide convenient assistance regarding environmental requirements.

**The National Environmental Compliance Assistance Clearinghouse** provides quick access to compliance assistance tools, contacts, and planned activities from the U.S. EPA, states, and other compliance assistance providers: <http://www.epa.gov/clearinghouse>

**Pollution Prevention Clearinghouse**  
<http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/library/ppicindex.htm>

**EPA's Small Business Ombudsman Hotline** can provide a list of all the hot lines and assist in determining the hotline best meeting your needs:  
(800) 368-5888

**Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act**  
(800) 424-9346

**National Response Center** (to report oil and hazardous substance spills)  
(800) 424-8802

**Toxics Substances and Asbestos Information**  
(202) 554-1404

**Safe Drinking Water**  
(800) 426-4791

**Stratospheric Ozone and Refrigerants Information**  
(800) 296-1996

**Clean Air Technology Center**  
(919) 541-0800

**Wetlands Helpline**  
(800) 832-7828

### EPA Websites

EPA has several Internet sites that provide useful compliance assistance information and materials for small businesses. If you don't have access to the Internet at your business, many public libraries provide access to the Internet at minimal or no cost.

**EPA's Home Page**  
<http://www.epa.gov>

**Small Business Assistance Program**  
<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/sbap>

**Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance**  
<http://www.epa.gov/compliance>

**Compliance Assistance Home Page**  
<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/assistance>

**Office of Regulatory Enforcement**  
<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/civil/index.html>

**Office of Site Remediation Enforcement**  
<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/cleanup>

**Innovative Programs for Environmental Performance**  
<http://www.epa.gov/partners>

**Small Business Ombudsman**  
[www.sba.gov/ombudsman](http://www.sba.gov/ombudsman)